

## U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

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U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
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# News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **ARTHUR R. MARSHALL LOXAHATCHEE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE**

#### **Refuge Closes Canoe Trail**

The Everglades Canoe Trail at the Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge was closed to the public on Friday, March 2, 2001. The closing was prompted by low water levels which makes travel on the 5.5 mile trail both difficult and hazardous. The trail is expected to reopen after the wet (rainy) season brings up the water level in the refuge interior. Refuge visitors wanting to canoe can use the L-40 canal. For more information call the Visitor Center at (561) 734-8303 or visit our web site at [Loxahatchee.fws.gov](http://Loxahatchee.fws.gov).

The refuge is located off U.S. 441/SR 7, two miles south of SR 804 (Boynton Beach Blvd) and three miles north of SR 806 (Delray Beach's Atlantic Avenue). The refuge is currently open from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., seven days a week. Refuge hours change seasonally and are posted at each entrance. The Visitor Center hours are 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. from Monday through Friday and from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on weekends and holidays. The Visitor Center is closed on Christmas Day. An entrance fee of \$5.00 per vehicle or \$1.00 per pedestrian is charged. A variety of annual passes, including a \$12.00 refuge specific annual pass, are available.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal Federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting, and enhancing fish and wildlife and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The Service manages the 93-million-acre National Wildlife Refuge System comprised of 531 national wildlife refuges,

thousands of small wetlands, and other special management areas. It also operates 66 national fish hatcheries, 64 fish and wildlife management offices, and 78 ecological services field stations. The agency enforces Federal wildlife laws, administers the Endangered Species Act, manages migratory bird populations, restores nationally significant fisheries, conserves and restores wildlife habitat such as wetlands, and helps foreign governments with their conservation efforts. It also oversees the Federal Aid program that distributes hundreds of millions of dollars in excise taxes on fishing and hunting equipment to state fish and wildlife agencies.